

The Sydney Morning Herald.

SYDNEY, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1906.

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For Notices of Births, Marriages, Deaths, &c., see Page 6.

SUMMARY.

The American squadron in China is to be largely reinforced by the American guard at the legation in Peking is to be increased.

The "Asahi Shimbun" (Tokio) urges the United States to offer China prompt and decisive advice, since China's attitude is gravely threatening peace.

Germany is asking for compensation in re-

lation to concessions to France relative to the killing of Morocco.

The Premier of Spain says he does not fore-

see any difficulty in the difficulties at the Morcote Conference.

General Lutzenberg (formerly military Governor of Paris) says he is convinced that it would be madness for Germany to attack France.

He pointed out that France is a hundredfold better prepared than she was in 1870.

The Emperor Francis Joseph has sanctioned the dissolution of the Hungarian Parliament.

The President of the Chamber of Deputies says that the Hungarian Parliament's dissolution will only yield to brute force.

The Imperial Protestant Federation has per-

mitted King Edward against permitting the marriage of Princess Ena to the Duke of Spain.

The United States House of Representatives has passed a bill to prohibit shipping of arms to foreign countries.

The "Times" (London) says that one mem-

ber of the committee of 200 gentlemen,

the general urges that if this franchise is

granted the Chinese question should be settled by a referendum of South Africa or by the Imperial Government.

The "Times" correspondent at Johannesburg says that the preoccupation of the "Vol-

ks" is attributed to inspiration from London.

The question regarding the Chinese indi-

cates that the Boers fear what the com-

pany's verdict will be on the subject.

The Conference of the Labour Repre-

sentatives has resolved in favour of grant-

ing the franchise to the Boers.

The policy of the Union of the House is to grant the franchise on the basis of all incomes derived from communal wealth.

The party advocates the total prohibition of the publication of betting news.

Church Agency leases that no settlement

of New Hebrides disputes has been arrived at, though the joint commission is making satisfactory progress.

The Proprietary Mine, Broken Hill, is on

Mr. Wade is unopposed by the reticence of

the Natal law authorities and their neglect

to reply to his appeals for information re-

garding the Witwatersrand.

The Proprietary of Western Australia com-

plainted he was not consulted regarding

the date of the Premier's conference, which

he will not be able to attend.

"On behalf of Western Australia," he adds,

"we protest against the treatment of New South Wales, 'tis such a treat."

The solicitors for the contractors have

written to the South Australian Government

stating that any additional compensation

for the extra work will be resisted.

On Saturday the Government tried to ob-

tain possession of the works, but the con-

tractors erected a technical barrier across

the road.

The Government party then took a launch,

and when landed at the works was encoun-

tered by the contractors, both parties meet-

ing on a flat plain.

The profit made by the Fremantle Harbour trust in the six months ended December 31, 1905, £57,795.

The Labour Commissioner reports that the revenue received from the Government farm at Hunterston road are big.

An important part of the "National Educa-

tion" was read by Mr. J. Dawson at a con-

ference of the Teachers' Mutual Improvement Association at Bathurst.

He stated that in educational as in other

matters Australia is well on a paternal Gov-

ernment. In America private citizens spent fortunes on education.

The wheelers who struck at the Hebburn

factory have decided to resume work.

The Railways Commissioners state that the

Commissioner of the rail, with which they are

not concerned.

The Under-Secretary for Works (Mr. Davis)

left Sydney on a tour through India, Rus-

sia, and America.

The officers and men of the French cruiser

Catinat were entertained by Commander

of the fleet of the naval forces at Rush-

ester Bay on Saturday.

After the White Star steamer Tropic left

Pearl Melbourne, a derriort on board fell

on the ship's carpenter, killing him instantly.

Early on Saturday morning the Palace Hotel

and four adjoining shops in West Strahan (Tas.) were destroyed by fire.

The steamer Australis has decided not to stand

for a second visit.

At the biennial council meeting of the In-

dependent Order of Rechabites last week, the total membership was reported as 345,000, an increase of 314 in 12 months.

Five plague rats have been found in speci-

mens of the Australis, which has re-

summed steamship operations.

A woman who lives with a Chinaman at Bar-

beret has been committed for trial on a charge of being the keeper of a house in which she resided.

Two girls 12 years of age were found in the

house. Their mothers strongly denied ac-

count of the statement that they had been engaged as nurse girls.

The annual report of the Government Com-

missioner of the Royal Mint states that there has been a very large increase in the export of rabbits and poultry.

The steamer Australis, which was on a

run to the northern coast, has been re-

sumed undamaged.

At Warwick Farm meeting on Saturday the

principal handicap was won by Mr. W. Ander-

son's Sapphires.

At the V.A.C. meeting the Oakleigh Plate was won by Mr. C. L. Macdonald's Wands, and the Cup by Mr. A. G. Wynd's Lancers.

Mr. J. McDonald's filly, Lady Wallace, won the St. George Stakes, beating Gladstone, the

former.

According to the musketry returns which have been issued, the champion shot of the State was Mr. H. J. S. Hungerford, of Queen-

stown.

At the North Sydney Swimming Club's Carni-

val, R. Healy won the mile championship of New South Wales.

Wickham won the Kieran Remembrance Berries Race (75 yards).

The Sydney Yacht Squadron's ocean race competition on Saturday was White and

Marine (114 each), and U. Gregory (113).

At the first trials against the Melbourne Club (New Zealand) Eighteen made 108 in the first week. Motor Car or Coach Trips arranged to Goolongong, 10 miles.

The principal scorers in the first grade cri-

cket competition on Saturday were White and

Marine (114 each), and U. Gregory (113).

In their first trials against the Melbourne Club (New Zealand) Eighteen made 108 in the first week. Motor Car or Coach Trips arranged to Goolongong, 10 miles.

At the Adelaide cycling carnival, the princi-

pal event, the Wheel Race, was won by Rudi-

of Germany.

WE WOULD NOT IF WE DARE,
WE DARE NOT IF WE WOULD,
BY ONE iota LOWER THE STANDARD,
OF OUR THREE-GUINEA SUITS.

FARMER'S "THREE-GUINEA" SUITS.
THE BEST VALUE IN AUSTRALIA.

FANCY WOOLSTERS,
SAC SUITS, 6s.
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Modelled in the Latest Fashions.

MESSENGERS — MARITIMES,
SYDNEY TO LONDON, via COLOMBO, KALAKAUA, MANLEY, ANTOINETTE, AND PORTSMOUTH.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND,
via COLOMBO, KALAKAUA, MANLEY, ANTOINETTE, AND PORTSMOUTH.

PRINCE OF WALES,
via COLOMBO, KALAKAUA, MANLEY, ANTOINETTE, AND PORTSMOUTH.

MESSAGERS — MARITIMES,
SYDNEY TO LONDON, via COLOMBO and PARIS.

Stamps of 400 tons under contract with the French Government, postal calling at MELBOURNE, SYDNEY, and BRISBANE, NEW BRITAIN, and NEW GUINEA, for HONGKONG, KOREA, and YOKOHAMA, via CHINA, and HONGKONG, via CHINA, and HONGKONG EXPRESS MAIL SERVICE.

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GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

CHEAP EXCURSION TO THE HAWESBURY RIVER. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STEAMER GENERAL GORDON. 72 MILES BY RAIL, 30 BY STEAMER. WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY, AND SATURDAY NEXT.

Trains will leave Sydney at 2.5 a.m., and return at 4.30 p.m. The Return trip will occupy 5 hours. RETURN FAIR FROM Sydney and Suburban stations, including Steamer Trip—First-class, £6; Second-class, £4. Refreshments can be obtained on board the steamer at reasonable rates.

H. MCCLACHLAN, Secretary.

AMUSEMENTS.

PARRAMATTA TOWN HALL. TO-NIGHT AND EVERY MONDAY NIGHT. CLAY'S VAUDEVILLE COMPANY. NEW ARRIVALS AND NEW ILLUSTRATED SONGS. AND NEW MOVING PICTURES.

6d Admission; Front Seats 6d Extra. MASONIC HALL, SYDNEY. EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT.

ROYAL COMIC OPERA COMPANY. OPEN 10 A.M. TO 10 P.M. A. Full Lecture on Military Life all day. The Queen of Battle, the Cannon, Boom Room, the Ride, and the Artillery of Heaven. Amusing and Spectacular Up-to-date Subjects. Fresh, Pretty, and Picturesque Illustrations. ADMISSION TO ALL £1. Children, 6d.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF N.S.W. OPEN 10 A.M. TO 10 P.M. APRIL 11 TO 19, 1906. FREE SCHEDULES AND ENTRY FORMS ON APPLICATION TO H. M. BOWER, Secretary. Royal Chambers, 3 Castlereagh-street, Sydney.

MES. STAFFORD. Accompanist to Piano forte and Singing Chorus singers taught their parts. 91 Hargrave-street, Paddington.

PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS' ASSOCIATION. Members are requested to attend the 34th quarterly meeting to be held on Saturday, 23rd February, at 8 p.m. A. O'BRIEN, Secretary.

BOSHERY PARK RACES. THIS DAY, MONDAY.

ADMIRATION—ONE SHILLING. FIRST RACE, 1 P.M. ADMIRATION—ONE SHILLING. SPECIAL RACES NOT ON. BETTING BEST-STREET AT 12.30 P.M., AND RUN EVERY 10 MINUTES UNTIL 1 P.M. ORDINARY RACE, 6d.

E. A. BATEMAN, Secretary. EPPING RACING CLUB. FRIDAY, 16 FEBRUARY, 1906. PROGRAMME.

TRIAL HOPC. (150) of 200 yards, 5d far. for all horses that have not received a prize of 6d over, one 7d, six furthers.

THE ROSEHILL HANDICAP, of 200 yards, one mile.

THE HYALMERE MILLE, of 70 yards; lowest weight, 5d. fur. etc.

THE FLYING WELTER, of 70 yards; lowest weight, 5d. fur. etc.

THE ROSEHILL HANDICAP, of 200 yards, one mile.

THE HYALMERE MILLE, of 70 yards; lowest weight, 5d. fur. etc.

ENTRIES CLOSE WEDNESDAY, 15 FEBRUARY. S. PETERS, Secretary. 21 Imperial Arcade, Pitt-street, Telephone, 364.

RORNELL RACING CLUB. SATURDAY, 23 FEBRUARY, 1906.

THE HURDLE RACE, of 70 yards, two miles.

THE MARCH STAFFERS, of 70 yards, six furthers.

THE HURDLE RACE, of 70 yards, for all horses that have not received a prize of 6d over, one 7d, six furthers.

THE FLYING WELTER, of 70 yards; lowest weight, 5d. fur. etc.

THE ROSEHILL HANDICAP, of 200 yards, 5d far. for all horses that have not received a prize of 6d over, one 7d, six furthers.

THE HYALMERE MILLE, of 70 yards; lowest weight, 5d. fur. etc.

ENTRIES CLOSE THIS DAY, FRIDAY 16 FEBRUARY. S. PETERS, Secretary. 21 Imperial Arcade, Pitt-street, Telephone, 364.

STOCK, SHARES, AND MONEY.

WHY PAY EXORBITANT INTEREST? when you can obtain a PRIVATE LOAN TO ANY AMOUNT OR PURCHASE, or any other kind of Capital, on EASY TERMS, BEING FROM £100 FOR £100 ADVANCED, repayable in TWELVE MONTHS, with NO INTEREST, and NO CHARGE FOR PAYMENT. To me and my wife make you an advance, and pay it off in twelve months.

NO FEES, ETC., CHARGED.

G. W. GODWIN, 188 Pitt-street, Mr. Kingst, chq.

FROM THE LENDING OF MONEY I HAVE BEEN DEBARLED. I have up to £2,000 WITHOUT SECURITY. If you are in need of money, apply to me. I also advance Furniture, Pianos, Sewing Machines, Books, Stationery, Diamonds and Jewellery, on your own terms.

I AM LENDING UNDER AN EQUAL RATE, MAY BE FOR AS LONG AS YOU WANT IT.

I AM PREPARED TO TAKE UP CREDIT FROM OTHERS, AND PAY THEM BACK, AND PAY YOU BACK IN ONE HOUR. NO FEES, NO hidden treatment. You can have your own time to repay, and interest will be charged on the amount outstanding.

George 1546. Letters attended to.

M. ONEY, A. WOLPER, 10 Elizabeth-street, Sydney. I have no big salaried manager to pay, so directors or large staff of clerks to pay, but attend to do and do well, and have a good record.

BORROWERS THEREFORE HAVE THE BENEFIT OF THAT RATE. I WILL LEND £5, and charge £1.40 for £5, £2.80 for £6, £4.00 for £8, and so on, up to £100, £12.00 for £100, £14.00 for £120, etc. etc. etc.

NOTICE TO BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS— Let me know if you want to let your buildings to me.

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SPORTING.

THE TURF.

Although Sydney horses failed to secure a place in the principal events on the opening day of the year, Australia had a good start. From this side began the campaign very well by annexing the Bond Cup and St. George Stakes. Kyneton. It will be remembered, made a brilliant four-anniversary debut in cap, and his win in the Bond Cup, on top of his form last month, shows the colt to be second best in the land. His weight penalty three pounds for Saturday's win will bring his weight up to 56. He is also among the first mares to be sent for V.R.C. studs. Lady Wallace's form in the Bond Stakes was distinctly good, and it has considerably enhanced her prospects for the Victorian red ribbon events.

Wanda, who won the Oakleigh Plate on Saturday, was bred by Mr. P. H. Morton on the farm, in this state, as a yearling. She was put up for the Melbourne Cup and the races for 100 guineas. He is by the defunct Russel from Wood Dove, by Grand Flaneur from Wood Dove, by Frenchman. The gelding is in the Newmarket, and his record is 10 wins, 10 placed, 10 fourths, 10 fifth, 10 sixth, 10 seventh, 10 eighth, 10 ninth, 10 tenth, 10 eleventh, 10 twelfth, 10 thirteenth, 10 fourteenth, 10 fifteenth, 10 sixteenth, 10 seventeenth, 10 eighteenth, 10 nineteenth, 10 twentieth, 10 twenty-first, 10 twenty-second, 10 twenty-third, and 10 twenty-fourth.

Mr. M. F. B. Christian's ch. v. Vandium, by Rosy (imp.)—Crystalline, 4 yrs., by F. (Hickey)....

Other starters: Queen, 70 lbs (C. Pratt); Bienville, 60 lbs (J. Montague); Bonham, 60 lbs (G. Scott);

Mr. A. F. Follett's br. g. Fashoda, 60 lbs (A. Thomas);

Other starters: Queen, 70 lbs (C. Pratt); Bienville, 60 lbs (J. Montague); Bonham, 60 lbs (G. Scott);

Bettina, 60 lbs (C. Pratt); Bienville, 60 lbs (G. Scott);

Mr. J. Nicholas' br. g. Locomotion, by the Admiral; Lorna, 60 lbs (G. Wheeler);

Mr. R. Hemmings' ch. g. St. Elmo, aged, 60 lbs (L. Cox);

Mr. R. Hemmings' br. g. Burmese, aged, 60 lbs (M. S. Peacock);

Other starters: Adjutor, 60 lbs (C. Dickenson); Seymour, 60 lbs (P. Cooper); Yum Yam, 60 lbs (S. S. Safford); Sir Elmo, 60 lbs (J. Curran); George, 60 lbs (P. Fielder);

Mr. A. F. Follett's 2 ch. 2 each v. Vandium, 60 lbs (C. Pratt); Bienville, 60 lbs (J. Montague); Bonham, 60 lbs (G. Scott);

Other starters: Queen, 70 lbs (C. Pratt); Bienville, 60 lbs (J. Montague); Bonham, 60 lbs (G. Scott);

Bettina, 60 lbs (C. Pratt); Bienville, 60 lbs (G. Scott);

Mr. W. C. Barnes' ch. h. Cardon, late Cycles;

Mr. D. C. Smith's br. g. Rydalmere, aged, 60 lbs (A. Hood);

Other starters: Preceptor, 60 lbs (J. Chevalier); Marcelline, 60 lbs (P. Cooper); Yum Yam, 60 lbs (S. S. Safford); Sir Elmo, 60 lbs (J. Curran); George, 60 lbs (P. Fielder);

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Mr. A. F. Follett's 2 ch. 2 each v. Vandium, 60 lbs (C. Pratt); Bienville, 60 lbs (J. Montague); Bonham, 60 lbs (G. Scott);

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Mr. W. C. Barnes' ch. h. Cardon, late Cycles;

Mr. D. C. Smith's br. g. Rydalmere, aged, 60 lbs (A. Hood);

Other starters: Preceptor, 60 lbs (J. Chevalier); Marcelline, 60 lbs (P. Cooper); Yum Yam, 60 lbs (S. S. Safford); Sir Elmo, 60 lbs (J. Curran); George, 60 lbs (P. Fielder);

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THE WEATHER.

SERIES OF THUNDERSTORMS.

Oppressive conditions were experienced in the city and suburbs on Saturday, although the temperature was but 84° Fahr. During the afternoon a thunderstorm passed over, but brought no rain. The result for the evening was a night extremely muggy and close, and the total quantity of rain registered was only five points. The storm, however, appears to have been very severe in the western districts, and damage to property resulted. The greatest velocity of the wind in the city was but 20 miles an hour from the direction of NE, recorded at 8 p.m. Many high temperatures were registered in the afternoon Saturday, among the thermometer readings furnished to the Observatory being:—Maitland and Wagga 111 degrees, Bourke and Hay 110, Wentworth 109, Broken Hill and Dubbo 108, Cobar, Hillston, and Wilcannia 107; Albany and Wagga 106, and Coonabarabran and Forbes 104. From the complete return to hand on Saturday it appears that the rainfall recorded up to date was recorded at no fewer than 56 stations on Friday, the principal registrations being:—Lake Cudgerie 112 degrees, Jerry's Plains 111, Wagga and Mount Hope 110, and Bourke 109.

Yesterday unsettled and thunderous conditions prevailed along the central point of the coast road, but little rain resulted. A light drizzle occurred in the city during the afternoon and evening. The mean hourly velocity of wind during the day ranged from 18 to 29 miles, the greatest velocity attained being 41 miles at 2:30 p.m. and again at 7:15 p.m. from the direction of SSE.

A few hours later, when he had checked, he found the offices had been broken into, the safe opened by means of skeleton keys, and the cash stolen.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

FREMANTLE HARBOUR TRUST.

PERTH, Saturday.—The profit made by the Fremantle Harbour Trust for the half-year ended December 31 last amounted to £27,792.

A POLITICAL CANARD.

PERTH, Sunday.—Spoken to yesterday regarding a statement that Mr. James Hartigan, to resign his position as Minister of State, Mr. Hartigan said: "I do not know who is the author of this canard, but certainly any such serious difference existing between the Agent-General and me as to induce me to resign my appointment is absolutely without foundation. As is but natural, seeing that Mr. James was my political chief, and was and is very dear personal friend, the most cordial relations exist between us, and I trust always will."

ROSEMARY OF RACE TAKINGS.

WELLINGTON, Sunday.—Yesterday a robbery was committed from the office of the Helena Vale Turf Club, in George-terrace, Albany, after returning to the office from racing meetings on the course. The secretary, Mr. George Lehman, placed the cashbox containing the day's takings, £450, in a safe with which he went to get dinner. Twenty minutes later, when he returned home, he found the offices had been broken into, the safe opened by means of skeleton keys, and the cash stolen.

STORY OF TWO MARRIAGES.

ALLEGED ATTACK ON A SEAMAN.

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RIFLE SHOTS FIRED.

BRISBANE, Sunday.—An extraordinary story was unfolded before the Court of Justice yesterday, connecting with an application for a writ of habeas corpus brought by J. H. Morgan, accountant, of Brisbane, with John Bell Brodie, on the ground that he had been detained against his will.

Morgan, of 21 points, Bell Brodie, of 20, and Katoomba by 21 points. In the metropolitan districts 20 points fell, while Kurrajong and Point Cook, in the bush, were 19. The city only 1 point was registered. Along the South Coast Wollongong had 13 points, and on the north-western slopes 15 points fell at Wollongong.

Mr. Morgan says that cool southerly winds will be expected generally to-day. The weather will clear in the south-east, but will continue unbroken and showers will continue in the eastern districts, more particularly on the northern rivers.

STORM AT PARRAMATTA.

The storm on Saturday afternoon, wrought considerable damage in Parramatta, uprooting trees and a number of buildings. In some instances, gavels and iron rods were torn bodily and landed hundreds of yards away. The storm, which covered but a narrow strip, struck obliquely from the south-west. There was a good deal of hail in the track of the storm.

SPLendid Rain at Newcastle.
NEWCASTLE, Sunday.—About 9 o'clock this evening steady rain set in, making the street gutters overflow. Good rains are also reported to-night along the Hunter River valley.

BYRON.—Another heat wave has been experienced in the town. On Saturday the shade temperature reached 110 degrees.

COOMA.—The prolonged dry weather is still continuing, with little rain. The small rivers are drying up, and grass is scarce.

DUBBO.—The thermometer on Friday registered 105° Fahr. The average maximum for 60 days is over 105°.

LITCHFIELD.—Light rain fell on Friday evening.

QUEANBEYAN.—Hot dry weather prevails, and is scarce, and prospects for the winter are not encouraging.

ST. MARYS.—A heavy thunderstorm occurred on Friday afternoon; 37 points of rain were registered.

WOLLONGONG.—A thunderstorm passed over her on Sunday afternoon, with scattered showers.

WOMAN'S PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION.

LOCAL OPTION POLL.

VOTE NOT YET COUNTED.

ADELAIDE, Sunday.

On Saturday the first local option poll under the Act of 1891 was taken, and six electors gave their votes. The Act gives electors power to vote for the reduction of incomes, and if it is decided that any man should be denied his right to a pension, he may be compelled to stand for election.

The election was held in the State election booth, and the result was that the members of the Progressive Association had been given to give women doctors positions.

We in New South Wales were in the advanced position of having given them, but forcing them to go elsewhere to obtain appointments.

The time had arrived when the Progressive Association had the interests of the public and by virtue of his office, because it was a State subsidised institution. She means, and the public opinion had shown itself on the question.

"At the time when Mr. James Dean, the elected representative of the State, should, in the interests of the public and by virtue of his office, take his seat in the Senate of Victoria, after his election for the South Australian Alliance."

Mr. Parkinson seconded the resolution, which was well supported and carried unanimously.

The motion was then moved a further motion, that this association urges the Premier to use his influence in having a Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the conduct of the Princes Alfred Hospital, to reconsider the elimination of Dr. Jeanne Aspinwall's name from the medical staff of the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, and that the resolution was duly seconded, and also carried unanimously.

Mr. Joseph Finlayson subsequently delivered an interesting article, "The American in Australia," to the meeting.

He stated that in America in 1890 there were 2000 women doctors, with 134,000 male doctors, while the figures for 1905 show that there is now the number of female physicians of 100 per cent.

A vote of thanks was accorded the lecturer for his address.

OUTRAGES ON JEWS IN RUSSIA.

A report prepared for the London "Jewish Chronicle," of January 12, by Mr. Stebbins, one of the Commissioners sent to Russia to inquire into the outrages over 1000 Russian Jews, states that in 27 towns out of 301 towns in which outrages were committed, the number of killed was 700, and the number of wounded 2700. Of those wounded, 2000 were directly affected, i.e., those whose houses, shops, or factories were the objects of attack and pillage, while 1000 were injured in other ways.

The figure represents a total number of some 200,000 to 250,000 persons directly affected. The direct material loss of property, while not so great, was far exceeded by the sum of damages, according to verified returns which have so far been received, to about £11,000,000. Two points must be observed, however, in this widely-scattered district with nearly the same proportion of hotels as the south.

BUSH FIRES.

OUTBREAK NEAR COOLAMON.

COOLAMON, Sunday.—A bush fire broke out on Thursday evening at Dulah, 8 miles from Coolamon, amongst all their grass and some new fence posts; in each instance, the areas being from 600 to 700 acres. Those known to have suffered are Mr. Smith and Mr. McKinnon. The fire was blocked on the north at Swann's, and from four miles of Coolamon on the south.

Mr. P. O'Brien, whilst ploughing break, was ploughing his field, when the fire, following the plough, broke out in the meantime leaping towards him in grass 18 inches high. He managed to get his horse to plough out of the predicament just as the flames reached within 20 yards of him.

ACTION AT COWRA.

COWRA, Sunday.—At a meeting of the Farmers' and Traders' Association yesterday, a resolution was agreed to:—"That the Government be requested to appoint a Royal Commission to inquire into the origin of bush fires with a view to introducing legislation for the prevention of fires and the spread of outbreaks when occurring."

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ASSISTANCE.

KALGOORLIE, Sunday.—The Mayor of Kalgoorlie is forwarding the treasure of the town to the Red Cross relief fund to-morrow a cheque for £100.

NEW ZEALAND DEFENCES.

M. SEDDON'S OPINION.

WELLINGTON, Sunday.—Speaking on defence matters, Mr. Seddon said the colony had now reached a record number. Counting volunteers, cadets, and Permanent Artillery, they had a force of over 20,000 additional companies, and rifle clubs were offering.

The clearest proof exists in numerous instances that officials of the Russian Government urged the people to exact reparation, and demanded that their dwelling-house or place of business was immediately freed at, and he was treated as a revolutionist.

Secondly, there were places where outrages did not occur, for example in St. Petersburg; but in all such instances the authorities took some special measures to restrain the people, so that they were bribed to preserve order.

The impressions of the Commission, gained by personal observation and by examination of the documents, were that the outrages of the most terrible nature. The results of the outrages are more atrocious than can possibly be gauged by any man.

It is certain that it is contrary to the Russian authorities, in far by the majority of cases, not nothing to prevent the barbaric excesses against the Jews.

In regard to defence matters generally, he said that we never in a better position.

He did not think any nation on the face of the globe would dare to set foot in New Zealand. They could hardly conceive that they got here, they would have such a warm reception that they would be very sorry they ever came.

THE VILLE DE LA CIOTAT.

FREMANTLE, Saturday.—The French mail steamer Ville de la Ciotat has arrived.

Passenger:—For Melbourne, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Kochert, Zeiter, Duwe, Mr. Hector Wilson.

For Nomura: Lieut. Mr. and Mrs. Hart.

NEW ZEALAND.

STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANY.

WELLINGTON (N.Z.), Sunday.

The annual report of the Standard Insurance Co. showed that the premium for the year ended December 31 last amounted to £27,792.

A POLITICAL CANARD.

PERTH, Sunday.—Spoken to yesterday regarding a statement that Mr. James Hartigan intended to resign his appointment as Minister of State, Mr. Hartigan said: "I do not know who is the author of this canard, but certainly any such serious difference existing between the Agent-General and me as to induce me to resign my appointment is absolutely without foundation. As is but natural, seeing that Mr. James was my political chief, and was and is very dear personal friend, the most cordial relations exist between us, and I trust always will."

The fourth wool sale of the season was held at Wellington, between 4000 and 5000 bales were offered. There was a good attendance. Bids were brisk, and the prices were bid up higher than at the last sales.

THE IRON-SAND COMPANY.

WELLINGTON, Sunday.—A rumour emanated from Wellington that the Iron-Sand Company had been formed in London. Mr. Berry of New Plymouth, one of the partners, made a statement to the effect that the latest advice shows that a board of directors had been appointed, but no share were allotted.

ALLEGED ATTACK ON A SEAMAN.

WELLINGTON, Sunday.—An impression was made by the Iron-Sand Company, that the new board of directors had been formed in London.

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